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GULL

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Mr. Augustus Sayre Kibbe, for the past six years President of the Audubon Association of the Pacific, died at his home in Berkeley, August 21, 1926.

SEPTEMBER MEETING: The next regular meeting of the Association will be held on Thursday evening, 16th inst., in the Assembly Hall of the Public Library, corner McAllister and Larkin Sts. Take elevator to third floor. Car lines No. 5 or No. 19. **KINDLY NOTICE DATE OF MEETING. SEPTEMBER 9th BEING A HOLIDAY THE MEETING HAS BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL THE 16th.** Visitors will be made welcome.

The feature of the evening will consist of a talk by Mr. Harold E. Hanson who will speak on "Some birds seen in the Cazadero region." Mr. Hanson has camped in this region as nature study instructor for the Boy Scouts for more than five years.

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SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP will be taken on Sunday, SEPTEMBER 12th, to Baumberg Station, on the Alvarado Branch, a short distance below Mt. Eden, for the purpose of observing waders, shore birds and the earlier ducks. The lists on this trip run from thirty to thirty-five interesting species, including avocets and stilts.

Take Southern Pacific ferry leaving San Francisco at 8:40 a. m. East Bay members may take train at First St. and Broadway, Oakland, at 9:15 a. m. Purchase round trip ticket to Baumberg, about \$1.20 from San Francisco or about 75c from Oakland. Allow ample time to purchase tickets. Return train will leave Mt. Eden at 4:23 p. m. Bring lunch and canteens.

The party will leave club house at Baumberg, about one-quarter mile west of the station, at 10:00 a. m. This may be reached by automobile via the highway from San Lorenzo to Mt. Eden and Alvarado, turning off toward the bay about three-quarters of a mile below Mt. Eden four corners. Or, otherwise, from car line at Haywards, via the road to Mt. Eden and thence as above.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE AUGUST MEETING: The one-hundred thirteenth regular meeting of the Association was held on August 12th, in the Assembly Room of the Public Library, with Mr. C. B. Lastreto, Corresponding Secretary, in the chair; Mr. Parry, Secretary; eight members and four guests present.

The vacation accounts were opened by Miss F. Payne who together with some of our members had been fortunate enough to join the Sierra Club on

their outing to Yellowstone Park. A three-toed woodpecker was observed feeding young in the nest making trips at eight-minute intervals. Mrs. Mexia, also a member of the above party, reported a pair of trumpeter swans with one young, pink sided juncos, Rocky Mountain jays and ospreys, nine nests of the latter birds having been found.

Mr. Frank Cliff spent his vacation in the Santa Lucia Mountains, forty miles south of Monterey. He identified eighty species. Western blue birds were very numerous, four California condors were observed and the large number of Stellar jays, old and young, furnished much amusement as they imitated the call of the hawk. All present gave some experiences and the evening was concluded by viewing pictures taken by Mrs. Mexia in Yellowstone Park.



A camp in the Santa Cruz Mts. may not mean a great range of birds, but it gives an opportunity for the intensive study of a few. Certain families, especially the vigors wren and pileolated warbler, seemed much at home within a few feet of us, though we did not succeed in convincing them that the tidbits we offered were in any way superior to those of their own selection. A longer stay, I am convinced, would bring results.

The vigors wren had a favorite dust bath where the entire family rubbed and scrubbed and we had for daily music their exquisite song.

The creepers made their thorough and more or less regular inspection of our tree trunks, dropping down to within two or three feet of us to begin their repeated ascent.

After we had tamed the chickadees, a female pileolated warbler was very curious as to what the chickadees found in those strange twigs, our fingers, and we feel confident would have satisfied her curiosity if the chickadees had not indignantly assured her that they were the only interested parties. She approached within a few inches time and time again.

But the only actual participants of our bounty besides the juncos and towhees which regularly picked up the crumbs that fell from our table, were the chickadees and bluejays. How to give the former even their very dainty share, was our problem.

I might say here that in our absence of two summers, a new generation of chickadees had grown up that knew us not. Or if there were any of the former generations, their memories were not equal to so long a period. Every bit of food we put out to entice them was eagerly snatched by the jays.

We tried suspending buttered crusts from some foot or so of string. By plunging at these from the nearest twig or trunk the jay would succeed in crumbling it till it fell.

Then we hung English walnuts with openings in the shell. Again the battering-ram or punching bag process, but this time without success. Some serious consideration on Mr. Jay's part, with his crest tilted at various angles of contemplation. He has it! Clumsily at first but more and more skilfully as he goes from nut to nut, up comes the string, inch by inch, the slack held firmly in the claws. Finally the nut is reached and the kernel which would have lasted the entire chickadee family for days, is gulped in no time.

Then a trial of wits against wits. Nuts must be hung from twigs so small they would not hold the larger birds' weight. Or from wire too stiff to be drawn up. Both were tried with results highly satisfactory to the humans and their tiny friends, utterly nonplussing to the jay.

For Continuation, see Page 4.

VALEDICTION

Farewell, Augustus Sayre Kibbe!

What's in this name? Of the Augusti in history I know something, but nothing that befits him for he had not invested himself with aught of their pomposity or autocratic ways, President and practically one-man worker that he has been of the Audubon Association of the Pacific. Nor can I consider him as "Gus"; he took his work too seriously to be spoken to in terms of puerile familiarity. Of "Sayre" I knew nothing, but it has a suggestion of an aristocracy that clothed him, democratic though he generously made himself in welcoming all who would accept his co-operation in his chosen field of work and in their desire to learn something or more of Nature's angels. "Kibbe" fitted him exactly; it has a sort of directness and freedom of ceremony that marked the way I wanted to approach him closer, not in a familiarity that he did not invite, but in an intimacy one could not help have prized with such a non-futile mind as his, a heart filled with a wholesome love of nature and in a friendship that gave to those that possessed it added pleasure and profit in their companionable enjoyment of Nature's creatures which they studied and protected. He would not always have addressed me as "Mister" had I better succeeded in proving to him the affection that prompted me to say "Kibbe," as he was and will be called in full recognition of his worthiness.

Joining the Audubon Association of the Pacific not long after its organization, he immediately became a real live member. I remember he told me of puzzling over the identification of a female *Passer Domesticus* he discovered in Portsmouth Square; in time no bird lover came to know more or better than he, California's bird inhabitants, and I suspect that, could his bird notes be compiled, they would make up the best book for study and reference for bird-loving students.

He was well equipped when he was duly elected to the Presidency of the Association, both as authority on the knowledge and on the protection of birds, the purpose of the Association, and with the executive ability required to shoulder practically all of its work; and I painfully admit that this would have ended but for him, while now that he, instead, has ended his work. The work that he had carried on will continue with the momentum he gave it, and thus may it deservedly preserve his spirit and memory.

Sentimental was he; else he would not have loved the winged creatures, who, did they but know, would be among his real and chief mourners. But his was the sanely directed sentimentality guided by scientific knowledge of facts and practical viewing of conditions and with nothing of fanaticism that irritates, burns out, and nullifies its own efforts. The Audubon Association of the Pacific was never led to espouse a cause in preservation or conservation but that it stood firmly on as sound bases as ornithologists and naturalists establish through scientific investigations.

My memories of his visits to my office are pleasant ones, where his earnestness was ever brightened by a cheerful happy remark, witty offspring of a happy heart and clear conscience, and his parting gesture was always a smile.

America's aboriginal children pass out of this world into their Happy Hunting Ground. O Kibbe! I wish in truth 'twere so, and similarly for us, for even then you'd be but birding on an eternal field trip. And I'd ask to join you there as I did here at times, and we'd learn so much of that bird lovers want to know and ornithologists can't tell us. Vale! Auguste Kibbe.

C. B. LASTRETO.

THE GULL

We shook with glee as he sidled down the twig, getting his feet tangled in the horsechestnut leaves at the end, and then fairly tumbling off in anything but a dignified manner. The crowning insult was when a squirrel, watching his chance, from a table below, seized the nut as it came within reach.

Thereafter the chickadees luxuriated in the nuts, whether suspended from the twigs or in our hands. To be ready for their first call for breakfast, each member in camp retired with a nut under the pillow. We fancied it must be quite similar in taste to the natural diet, a nice fat worm or bag of insect eggs.

We only hope the birds have not been too pampered to return to their natural food at the same time that they sometimes wonder what has become of their free feast and the givers.

HENRIETTA BURROUGHS.

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AUGUST FIELD TRIP was taken on Sunday, August 15, to Tennessee Cove, Marin County, starting from Manzanita and following the highway to the junction of the Tennessee Cove road which was followed to the ocean, where luncheon was eaten.

The day was cool, with fog and wind, but in spite of this the birds were out in good numbers and numerous close-up views of many species were had. The features of the day were linnets traveling in large flocks and showing color phases of red, pink and yellow. Western gnat-catchers were found near the station and again near the ocean. A Sora rail furnished the most notable feature of the day, allowing a very close up study of it for more than ten minutes when it was frightened into flying to satisfy the party as to whether or not a rail can fly.

Birds encountered were: Western Grebe, Farallon cormorant, Murre, western and California gulls, and kingfisher on the bay and ocean. Elsewhere—Great blue heron, sora rail, killdeer, California quail, marsh, western, red-tailed, and sparrow hawks, horned owl, red-shafted flicker, Anna hummer, black phoebe, western flycatcher, coast and California jays, crow, Brewer blackbird, linnet, willow and green-backed goldfinches, Nuttall and song sparrows, San Francisco and California brown towhees, cliff and rough-winged swallows, yellow, Macgillivray and pileolated warblers, vigors wren, chickadee, bush and wren tits, western gnat-catcher, and western blue bird. Forty species.

Members in attendance were: Miss Wilson; Mrs. Hall, Kelly, Mexia; Messrs. Bryant, Myer. As guests: The Misses Bostwick, Haefner, Zeile; Mrs. Bracelen, Dr. Goodman and Scouts R. Brown, R. Frank, H. Hartmann, F. Juda, H. Juda, D. Newman. Six members and eleven guests.

C. A. BRYANT, Historian.

AUDUBON ASSOCIATION OF THE PACIFIC

FOR THE STUDY AND THE PROTECTION OF BIRDS

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Meets second Thursday of each month, at 8:00 p.m., in Assembly Hall of San Francisco Public Library, Larkin and McAllister Streets.

Address Bulletin correspondence to President.

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